

COUNTRY: Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC: Dessau Airfield

25X1X

EVALUATION: [REDACTED]

PLACE OBTAINED: [REDACTED]

25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT: 18 April to 19 May 1952

DATE OBTAINED: [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED: 16 June 1952

REFERENCES:

1.

PAGES: ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE):

REMARKS:

RETURN TO CIA
LIBRARY

25X1X

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

25X1X

25X1X

25X1C

25X1X

25X1A

1. At 5:40 p.m. on 18 April 1952, a caterpillar tractor towed plane No 1 with a broken propeller from Dessau airfield. At 9:10 a.m. on 25 April, 45 ground attack aircraft and 1 biplane were counted at the field. The aircraft were parked in six groups each consisting of two rows. The same aircraft arrangement was observed at the field on 13 May. At 6:30 and 9:30 a.m. on 13 May, no flying activity was observed.

2. On 26 April, source determined from a passing train that 42 IL-10s and 1 biplane were parked at the field. The aircraft were arranged on their dispersal areas on the southern edge of the field. On 3 May, 40 IL-10s were observed on the same dispersal areas. Between about 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on 6 May, there was individual flying by IL-10s. About every 15 minutes, a plane took off. No formation flying was observed. About noon, an IL-10 was observed towing a sleeve target. On 9 May, there was the same flying activity as on 6 May. About 3:30 p.m., a biplane was observed aloft. At 4 p.m. when flying was discontinued, 42 IL-10s were counted at the field.

3. On 9 May, 46 single-engine planes and 4 biplanes were parked in the southern section of the field. Between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., there was flying by ground attack aircraft. The cloud base was at an altitude of about 1,200 meters. The aircraft took off individually, assembled in formations of four, and remained in the air for one hour. At the same time, biplanes were also in the air.

4. On 19 May, 34 ground attack aircraft were counted at the field. Source observed that six planes had red propeller hubs, four planes had yellow propeller hubs, and six other planes had white propeller hubs. Maintenance work was being done on the aircraft. No flying activity was observed. *

* [REDACTED] Comment. The report confirms that Dessau airfield is still occupied by a ground attack regiment. The various colors on the propeller hubs probably indicate the individual squadrons. The blue color which was not observed is probably the color of the fourth squadron.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY